

PTO/SB/08A (01-08)
Approved for use through 03/31/2008. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO		Complete if Known			
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Application Number	10/533,182-Conf. #4456		
		Filing Date	April 27, 2005		
		First Named Inventor	Seiji SUGIURA		
		Art Unit	1745		
		Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned		
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	TOW-108US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
/K.H./	A1*	US-5,998,055	12-07-1999	Kurita et al.	
	A2*	US-20010019793	09-06-2001	Tsuyoshi	
	A3*	US-6,410,178	06-25-2002	Matsukawa et al.	
	A4*	US-6,528,196 Corresponding to B1	03-04-2003	Fujii et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ²	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	† ³
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)					
/K.H./	B1	JP-2001-52723 Corresponding to A4		02-23-2001	Honda Motor Co. Ltd.		Abstr.
/K.H./	B2	EP-1100140-B1		05-16-2001	Toyota Jidosha Kabushiki Kaisha		

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
--------------------	-----------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. *CITE NO.: Those application(s) which are marked with an angle asterisk (*) next to the Cite No. are not supplied (under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(iii)) because that application was filed after June 28, 2003 or is available in the IPW. *Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	†	
/K.H./	C1	European Search Report for Application No. 03758972.8 - 1227, dated February 13, 2008		
Examiner Signature	/Kwang Han/	Date Considered	06/09/2008	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted via the Office electronic filing system in accordance with § 1.6(a)(4).

Dated: March 26, 2008

Electronic Signature for Anthony A. Laurentano: /Anthony A. Laurentano/

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /K.H./